

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-12 are amended and claims 4 and 10 are canceled. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found, for example, in canceled claim 4. Support for the amendment to claim 7 can be found, for example, in canceled claim 10. Claims 5 and 11 are rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of previously presented base claims 1 and 7, respectively. Claims 2-3, 6, 8-9 and 12 are amended for clarity and consistency. No new matter is added. In view of at least the following, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully request.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 4-6 and 10-12 contain allowable subject matter.

II. Objection to the Specification

The Office Action objects to the disclosure because the first page of the specification does not include a cross-reference to related applications. The disclosure is amended to include a cross-reference to related applications. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the title because it is allegedly not descriptive. The title is amended to be more descriptive. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements. The claims are amended to address the alleged ambiguity. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as having been obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,748,362 to Hedlund. Claims 1 and 7 are amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of canceled claims 4 and 10, and claims 5 and 11 are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claims 1 and 7, respectively. Therefore, claims 1, 5, 7 and 11 are patentable over Hedlund. Claims 2-3 and 8-9 also are patentable over Hedlund at least for their dependency from independent claims 1 and 7 as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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